

Ollie Flint's Contributions to Virginia Natural History

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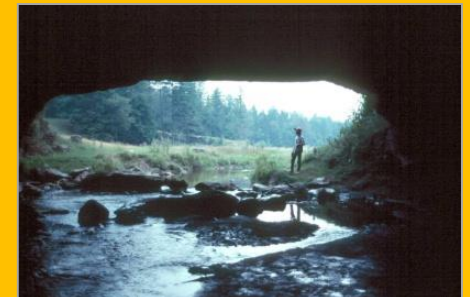
Steve Roble, Ollie Flint, Paul Bedell
October 8, 2009

Virginia Natural Heritage Program

- Initiated in 1986 by The Nature Conservancy
- A Division (~50 employees) of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Mission: Identify, protect & conserve Virginia's biodiversity

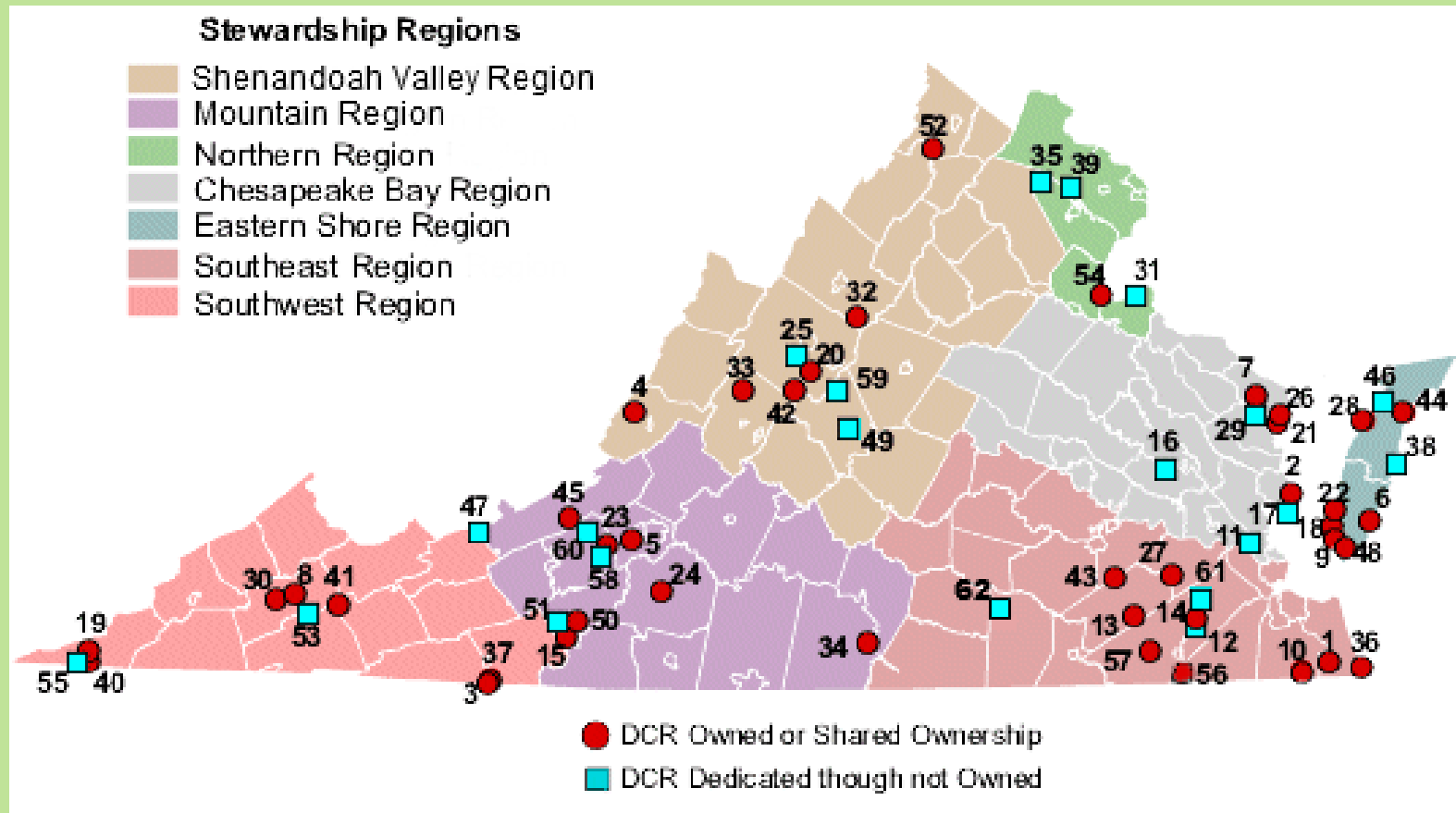


- Focus on:
 - Rare plants and animals
 - Rare and exemplary natural communities
 - Significant caves and karst features



Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Division of Natural Heritage

63 state natural area preserves; 55,894 acres





Ollie collecting scorpionflies (Mecoptera) at Chub Sandhill Natural Area Preserve, Sussex County, Virginia (Art Evans photos).

Virginia habitats



Montane beaver ponds



Cypress swamps

AQUATIC INSECT DIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Order	# VA species	US rank
Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies)	197	2 nd
Trichoptera (caddisflies)	375	1 st
Plecoptera (stoneflies)	189	2 nd
Ephemeroptera (mayflies)	170	Top 5-10



Virginia Natural History Society

Banisteria (1992-present) – Ollie published 9 papers on Virginia insects (Trichoptera, Neuroptera, Megaloptera, Odonata, Mecoptera)
Served on VNHS Board (Councilor, 2009-2012)

Banisteria, Number 24, 2004
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An Annotated List of the Caddisflies (Trichoptera) of Virginia: Part I. Introduction and Families of Annulipalpia and Spicpalpia

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ABSTRACT

A total of 203 species of caddisflies in the families Dipseudopsidae, Glossosomatidae, Hydropsychidae, Hydroptilidae, Philopotamidae, Psychomyiidae, and Rhyacophilidae are documented for Virginia, 46 of them not previously known for the state. Counties of known occurrence are given for all species; detailed collection data are provided for rare species, those which constitute substantial range extensions, and those new to the state. The distribution of each genus and species is also summarized. An introductory section reviews present and historical work on Virginia caddisflies.

Key words: Trichoptera, caddisflies, Virginia, Dipseudopsidae, Glossosomatidae, Hydropsychidae, Hydroptilidae, Philopotamidae, Psychomyiidae, Rhyacophilidae.

BANISTERIA

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE NATURAL HISTORY OF VIRGINIA



Owlfly (*Ascaloptynx appendiculata*)

Owlflies are rarely seen members of the primitive insect order Neuroptera. The first summary of the Virginia representatives of this group and the closely related order Megaloptera appears on pages 3-47 of this issue.

Virginia Museum of Natural History

Located in Martinsville, Virginia (south of Roanoke)

Became a state agency in 1988

Ollie – served 2 terms on the Board of Trustees

VMNH Senior Research Fellow (4 total)

2016 – received the Thomas Jefferson Award for Outstanding Contributions to Natural Science



Richard Hoffman (1927-2012)
Curator of Recent Invertebrates
(1989-2012)



Joe Keiper, Art Evans, Ollie Flint

National Museum of Natural History Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

Oliver Flint, Curator of Neuropteroids, 1961-1994;
Curator Emeritus, 1994-2019

Trichoptera, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, Odonata,
Megaloptera, Neuroptera, Raphidioptera, Mecoptera,
Anoplura, Mallophaga, Siphonaptera

Collected 26,000 Odonata specimens worldwide
>4,000 Virginia Odonata specimens databased

Netting, uv lights

Bull Run Mountains, VA (2010-2018) - Malaise
trap survey with Dave Smith (USDA, retired)



Dragonfly Society of the Americas

Purdue University, 1963 – first meeting
of odonatologists in North America
(Ollie was 1 of 3 attendees also at the
2017 DSA meeting held in Staunton, VA)



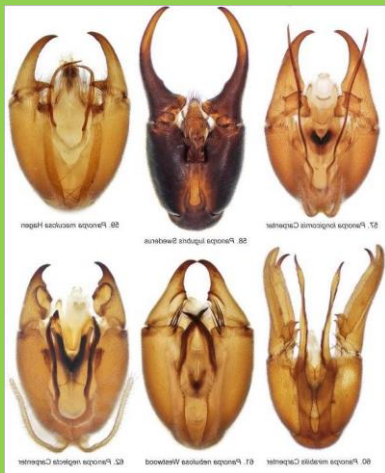
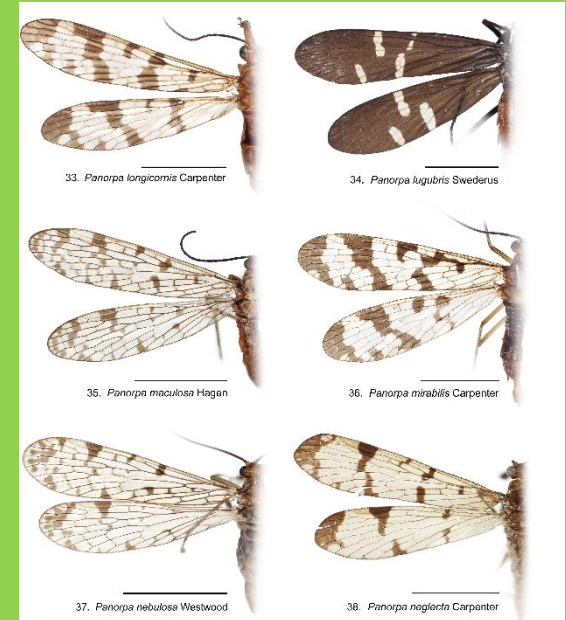
DSA Annual Meeting, Mary Baldwin University, Staunton, Virginia 10 June 2017

Mecoptera of Virginia

(scorpionflies, hangingflies, and allies)

Flint, Byers & Bicha

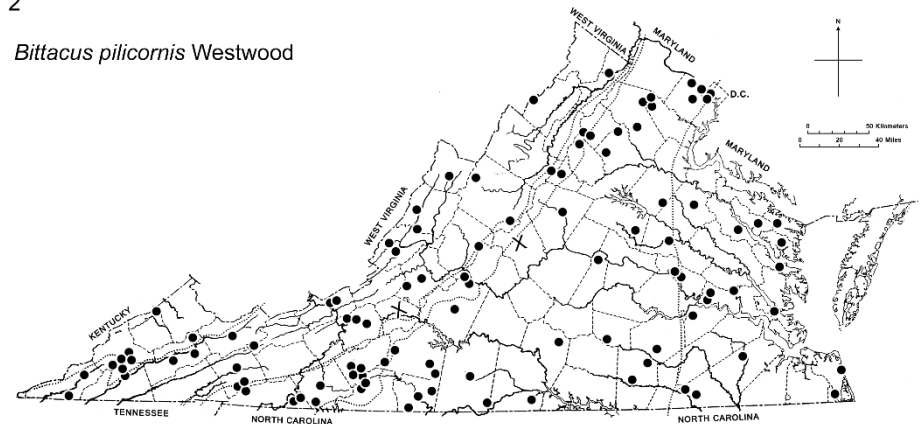
To be published in 2020
in the *Insects of Virginia*
series by the Virginia
Museum of Natural
History



5 *Bittacus*
1 *Hylobittacus*
2 *Boreus*
1 *Merope*
24 *Panorpa*
1 *Brachypanorpa*
34 total species

2

Bittacus pilicornis Westwood



Community Activities

Tree Steward (class of 2010, Arlington/Alexandria)

Del Ray Farmers Market (tree table)

Night Blooming Garden Club (Alexandria)

Virginia Native Plant Society (field trips)



Ollie beside an old-age *Quercus pagoda* (Cherrybark Oak) at Chapman Forest, Maryland.



Ollie planting in-kind *Betula nigra* (River Birch) at Holmes Run Park, Alexandria, VA.



Tree hike at Holmes Run Gorge, Dora Kelley Nature Park, Alexandria, VA, November 2013.

Photos by Rod Simmons, Natural Resource Manager, City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities.